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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Phase PCT Application of
Ferdinand PIECH et al.

Int'l PCT Serial No.: PCT/EP99/02716

Int'l Filing Date:: April 22, 1999

For: Mounting Arrangement Of An Automobile
Drive Unit Having A Combustion Engine
And A Transmission

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted simultaneously with the filing of the present application.

French reference 991 749 discloses a transmission arrangement. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

Swiss reference 273 580 discloses a motor vehicle with a star motor in which the cylinder heads are circumferentially separated by 60° each. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

German reference 32 09 901 discloses a single part cylinder head for a reciprocating piston internal combustion engine. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

German reference 38 09 995 discloses a vehicle suspension system. This reference corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,865,350, a copy of which is also enclosed.

German reference 39 20 638 discloses a drive system for a vehicle. This reference corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,014,812, a copy of which is also enclosed.

German reference 40 29 058 discloses a drive train layout for a racing car. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available. However, an English language abstract thereof is enclosed.

European reference 48 11 23 discloses a reciprocating engine for a motor vehicle. This reference corresponds to U.S. No. 5,094,203, a copy of which is also enclosed.

German reference 38 37 256 discloses a reciprocating piston internal combustion engine with a transmission. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available. However, an English language abstract thereof is enclosed.

German reference 49 95 49 discloses an air supply and exhaust system for an internal combustion engine. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

German reference 29 04 066 discloses an internal combustion engine. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

Japanese reference 42 44 426 discloses a power train structure for a car. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available. However, an English language abstract thereof is enclosed.

German reference 41 07 286 discloses a structure of a vehicle power train. This reference corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,206,373, a copy of which is also enclosed.

French reference 15 20 767 discloses improvements in a longitudinal engine and transmission unit for a vehicle. This reference corresponds to British reference 11 82 747, a copy of which is also enclosed.

Reference AO is an article dealing with an aluminum engine block for a four cylinder engine. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

Reference AP deals with a Porsche racing engine. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

Reference AQ is an article from a periodical discussing an 18 cylinder Bugatti engine.

Finally, reference AR is an article from a periodical which shows and briefly discusses an 18 cylinder engine. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available.

The present invention defines a specific mounting arrangement of an automobile drive unit having an internal combustion engine and a transmission which is not believed to be disclosed by the enclosed references.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By 

Klaus P. Stoffel
Reg. No. 31,668
551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210
New York, New York 10176
(212) 687-2770

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